

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 H-02 MC-02 EB-07 INR-07 L-03

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RAPECK/NH

APPROVED BY NEA:PDCONSTABLE

PM/SAS:DKEENE (PHONE)

H:EBLACK (SUBS)

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R 200034Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094896

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK, US

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI AMMUNITION ORDERS

REF: ISLAMABAD 3917, STATE 85745

1. PAKISTANI INTENTION ONCE AGAIN TO CHANGE ITS MIND AFTER AN LOA HAS BEEN DRAWN UP IS CAUSING JUSTIFIABLE ANGUISH IN DSAA. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT WE MAY HAVE UNWITTINGLY BEEN RESPONSIBLE BY NOT MAKING COMPLETELY CLEAR IN OUR EARLIER MESSAGE THAT WE WERE NOT QUESTIONING THE QUANTITY REQUESTED BY THE GOP, ONLY SEEKING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WITH WHICH WE COULD FORMULATE A PUBLIC POSTURE. THE GOP SHOULD NOT SCALE DOWN ITS REQUEST IF IT IS ONLY TRYING TO GET BELOW THE DOLS 25 MILLION LEVEL AND THUS TO AVOID CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONS. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY SERIOUS OPPOSITION FROM CONGRESS, BUT ONLY THINK IT PRUDENT TO BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND TO ANY POSSIBLE QUESTIONS.

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2. IF OUR QUERY HAS BEEN MISINTERPRETED, YOU MAY WISH TO
SUGGEST TO THE ARMY AUTHORITIES THAT THERE IS NO REASON WHY
THEY SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD WITH THIS PURCHASE IF, IN FACT,
THEY DO NEED THE AMMUNITION. ROBINSON

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NNN

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